

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	International Journal of Plant & Soil Science
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJPSS_130217
Title of the Manuscript:	Assessment of Soil Erosion Risk from Runoffs under Arid and Semi-arid Climate Zones in Africa
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

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PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This manuscript addresses a critical environmental issue—soil erosion in arid and semi-arid regions of Africa—which has significant implications for agriculture, water security, and ecosystem health. By focusing on the Isser watershed in Algeria, the study provides valuable case-specific insights that contribute to the broader understanding of soil degradation processes under climate stressors. The integration of physico-chemical soil properties with erosion risk assessment offers a comprehensive approach that can inform sustainable land management practices. Additionally, the study's findings on the impact of global warming on soil structural stability underscore the urgency of addressing climate change effects in vulnerable regions.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	The current title, "Assessment of Soil Erosion Risk from Runoffs under Arid and Semi-arid Climate Zones in Africa," is descriptive but could be more specific to enhance clarity and impact.	

Review Form 3

<p>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mention of the modeling tools or specific analytical methods used.• Key quantitative results that highlight the significance of the findings.	
<p>Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.</p>	<p>The manuscript presents a methodical approach to assessing soil erosion risks, integrating both field experiments and laboratory analyses. The use of established models like RUSLE and standard soil testing methods adds to the scientific rigor. However, there are areas that require clarification and improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Presentation: Tables and figures should be clearly labeled and referenced within the text to enhance readability.• Unexpected Findings: The inverse relationship between dry and wet soil infiltration rates warrants further exploration or literature support to substantiate the claims.• Statistical Analysis: More detailed statistical analysis, including significance levels and potential confounding factors, would strengthen the validity of the correlations presented.	
<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p>	<p>The manuscript cites a range of sources, but ensuring that all references are up-to-date and relevant is crucial. Some references appear dated, and incorporating more recent studies would enhance the manuscript's relevance.</p> <p>Suggestions for Additional References:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recent studies on the impact of climate change on soil erosion in arid regions (e.g., articles from 2020 onwards).• Latest advancements in soil erosion modeling techniques.• Contemporary research on soil organic matter management in semi-arid climates.	

Review Form 3

<p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>The manuscript is generally well-written, but there are areas where the language can be refined for clarity and academic tone. Corrections are needed for grammatical errors, consistency in terminology, and sentence structure to ensure the manuscript meets scholarly communication standards.</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Figures and Tables: Ensure all figures and tables are clearly labeled, referenced in the text, and include descriptive captions. • Methodological Details: Provide more detailed descriptions of experimental setups and statistical methods to allow reproducibility. • Discussion Depth: Expand the discussion on the implications of findings for local land management practices and policy-making. • Conclusion Strength: The conclusion should succinctly summarize the key findings and their broader implications without introducing new information. <p>There are no apparent ethical issues in the manuscript. The study appears to follow standard research protocols without ethical violations.</p> <p>The manuscript addresses a significant environmental issue with a well-defined study area and employs a combination of field and laboratory methods to assess soil erosion risks. While the study is valuable, improvements in data presentation, language clarity, and depth of discussion are necessary to enhance its scientific contribution. Addressing the unexpected findings with additional analysis or literature support will strengthen the manuscript's credibility.</p> <p>The manuscript presents a relevant and timely study on soil erosion in arid and semi-arid regions of Africa. To improve the manuscript's quality and suitability for publication, the authors should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refine the language to meet academic standards. • Enhance data presentation through clear labeling and integration of figures and tables. • Expand the discussion to contextualize findings within the broader literature. • Include recent references to support the study's relevance. • Address the unexpected infiltration results with additional analysis or literature support. <p>Upon making these revisions, the manuscript will be better positioned to contribute meaningfully to the scientific community's understanding of soil erosion dynamics under climate stressors.</p>	

PART 2:

	<p>Reviewer's comment</p>	<p>Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</p>
<p>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</p>	<p><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></p>	

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